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20 June 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director, Intelligence

SUBJECT: Senate Committee Interest in  
External Research Contracts

1. Three staff members of the Subcommittee on Federal Manpower Policies of the Senate Committee on Post Office and Civil Service have been discussing in the past week or two with State and Air Force certain Air Force contracts for external research in the social science field which they feel to be at best peripheral to the Air Force interest. The subcommittee staff is directed by Melvin Purvis, former FBI deputy director. The staff members who have been involved are Messrs. Moore, Anderson and Krutz. It appears that they have become interested in this field because of the importance of Government contracts on the manpower situation and, in turn, the large segment of these contracts which deals with social science research. One Air Force contract they uncovered is a study of Communism in India. They have photostatic copies of four other contracts on similar general subjects dealing with the Near East, Afghanistan, Turkey, the USSR and Southeast Asia, amounting to over one-half million dollars. The India project, and perhaps some of the others, are being conducted at the Arctic-Desert-Tropics Information Center under the Research Studies Institute at Maxwell Field, Alabama. Supervision of these contracts is a responsibility of the research and development people in the Air Force rather than the Intelligence Directorate. The reason for their engaging in this kind of study appears to be for its value in escape and evasion work, in which the Psychological Warfare Division is actively interested.

2. According to the State Department External Research Staff, which had not previously been aware of these Air Force studies, they in fact duplicate to a considerable extent some NIS and other work already underway. At the request of the Committee staff State is checking the extent of this duplication. The staff members were referred to CIA when they asked for a copy of the NIS outline. It is not clear where the Committee staff has been getting its information and photostats, although they seem to have acquired some information which was not available in Air Force Headquarters or the State Department.

3. About a year ago Walter Pforzheimer was called by a member of the Committee staff. He suggested at that time that they leave CIA out of their investigation and to date they seem to have done so.

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Acting Assistant Director  
Intelligence Coordination

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